

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
April 28, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Beryl Amedée, vice chair of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Beryl A. Amedée, vice chair
Representative Reese "Skip" Broussard
Representative Josh Carlson
Representative Kim Carver
Representative Kathy Edmonston
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
Representative Terry Landry, Jr.
Representative Chasity Martinez
Representative Charles Anthony Owen
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver
Representative Sylvia Elaine Taylor

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Laurie Schlegel, chair
Representative Barbara W. Carpenter

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elizabeth L. Borne, legislative analyst
Lisa Lovello, legislative analyst
Alexandra Cravins, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Chance Simpson, committee clerk
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

Senate Bill No. 399 by Senator Bass

Vice Chair Amedée in the chair.

Senator Bass presented Senate Bill No. 399, which creates the Louisiana Higher Education Research Security Council.

Representative Terry Landry offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 399 that provided an exception to the definition of a "foreign source" if an entity is operating under a national security agreement with the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States under Section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, 50 U.S.C. 4565. Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments, to which Representative Owen objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 8 nays. Representatives Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, and Taylor voted yea. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Edmonston, Owen, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted nay.

Michael Lucci, State Armor, 300 South Riverside, Suite 1625, Chicago, IL 60606, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 399.

Jacqueline Deal, State Armor, P.O. Box 40124, Washington, DC 20016, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 399.

Rodney Braxton, Lenovo, 543 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 399.

Chad Steele, Tulane University, 1440 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 399.

Brian J. Weimer, Tulane University, 1440 Canal Street, Suite 949, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 399.

Christopher Dressler, Tulane University, 1440 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 399.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 399 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 399 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 310 by Senator Cloud

On behalf of Senator Cloud, Representative Carlson presented Senate Bill No. 310, which requires the posting of signs in student health centers at public schools, colleges, and universities to provide information on available pregnancy resources.

Ben Clapper, Louisiana Right to Life, 200 Allen Toussant, no city or state provided, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 310.

Representative Taylor offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 310 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 310 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for Senate Bill No. 310.

House Resolution No. 171 by Representative Turner

Representative Turner presented House Resolution No. 171, which requests the Board of Regents, in coordination with Louisiana Works, the state Department of Education, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center, to study the effectiveness, use, and workforce outcomes of the M.J. Foster Promise Program and the TOPS-Tech award. Representative Turner provided a handout, "HR 171 Talking Points", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Andrew Fitzgerald, Greater Baton Rouge Economic Partnership, 564 Laurel Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 171.

Representative Carlson offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 171 favorably. Without objection, House Resolution No. 171 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1084 by Representative Turner

Representative Turner presented House Bill No. 1084, which provides relative to tuition and mandatory fees for public postsecondary education institutions.

Representative Freiberg offered amendments to House Bill No. 1084 that:

1. Reinstated all present law powers and duties of management boards relative to tuition and fees instead of granting specified powers and duties solely to institutions.
2. Added a requirement that institutions consider tuition and fee amounts of peer institutions, median household income in Louisiana and states where peer institutions are located, affordability, and total cost of attendance when establishing tuition and fees.
3. Removed the provision that failure to submit a written report may result in a suspension by the Board of Regents of any pending increase of tuition or fees.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Norby Chabert, 6855 Fay Drive, Houma, LA 70364, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1084.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1084 with amendments, to which Representative Carlson objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 1084 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Amedée, Carver, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yea. Representatives Broussard, Carlson, and Tarver voted nay.

Senate Bill No. 351 by Senator Jackson-Andrews

Senator Jackson-Andrews presented Senate Bill No. 351, which provides relative to children and family assistance programs.

Representative Amedée offered amendments to Senate Bill No. 351 that:

1. Provided that committee approval can occur with the committees meeting separately or jointly.
2. Provided for rulemaking by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education instead of the Department of Education.

Representative Amedée offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, and Taylor voted yea.

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 351 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 351 was reported with amendments by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 49 by Representative Fisher

Representative Fisher presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 49, which memorializes congress to include physical therapy as a professional degree program for purposes of borrowing limits for students seeking federal aid for postsecondary education.

Representative Terry Landry offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 49 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 49 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

House Bill No. 632 by Representative Spell

Representative Spell presented House Bill No. 632, which provides relative to information sharing for the purposes of Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System for Transformation (LA FIRST).

Representative Carlson offered amendments to House Bill No. 632 that:

1. Removed requirements that the initial set of personal information that school governing authorities share with the Department of Education (DOE) include existing personal information for current students as well as at least five years of historical personal information available for former students, that the DOE share this information with the Blanco Center, and that shared data be updated at least annually.
2. Prohibited data housed in the LA FIRST data system from being sold to third parties.
3. Added that personal information and nonpersonal information shall be transferred and stored separately.
4. Required the DOE to implement a process for parents to opt out of the information sharing process through which school governing authorities share information at least annually with the Blanco Center upon registration as part of an existing data sharing information notice or parental consent process.
5. Added a requirement that school governing authorities share personal information for high school students directly with the DOE and that the DOE share it with the Blanco Center.
6. Modified the allowable uses of personal information.
7. Specified that information shared with the Department of Education by school governing authorities be matched to unique student identification numbers.
8. Added that proposed law become effective on November 30, 2026.

Representative Carlson offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Meredith McGovern, Excel in Education in Action, 422 Antietam, Bossier, LA 71112, spoke in support of House Bill No. 632.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 632 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 632 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 12 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Tarver offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Martinez, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Laurie Schlegel
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: